

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

H/R  
SJR/SBS/  
RWK

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:  
STEVEN J. ROCCI  
WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP  
ONE LIBERTY PLACE, 46TH FLOOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

**RECEIVED**  
**DEC 14 2004**  
Mary Ann Devine

## PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND  
THE WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
SEARCHING AUTHORITY, OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year)

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>MSFT-4419<br><br>International application No.<br>PCT/US04/24569<br><br>Applicant<br>MICROSOFT CORPORATION | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>RECEIVED</b><br/><b>DEC 10 2004</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">6/21/05</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See paragraphs 1 and 4 below</p> <p>International filing date<br/>(day/month/year) 29 July 2004 (29.07.2004)</p> |
|---|--|

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith.  
  
**Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:**  
 The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):  
  

**When?** The time limit for filing such amendments is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the international search report.

**Where?** Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Facsimile No.: +41 22 740 14 35

**For more detailed instructions,** see the notes on the accompanying sheet.
2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.
3. ☐ **With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2,** the applicant is notified that:
  - ☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.
  - ☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.
4. **Reminders**  
 Shortly after the expiration of **18 months** from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.  
  
 The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Searching Authority to the International Bureau. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an international preliminary examination report has been or is to be established. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.  
  
 Within **19 months** from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase **until 30 months** from the priority date (in some Offices even later); otherwise, the applicant must, **within 20 months** from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices.  
  
 In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of **30 months** (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.  
  
 See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US<br>Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US<br>Commissioner for Patents<br>P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450<br>Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230 | Authorized officer<br>Jean M. Corrigan <i>J. M. Corrigan</i><br>Telephone No. (703) 305-9000 |
|--|--|

Form PCT/ISA/220 (January 2004)

(See notes on accompanying sheet)

**RECEIVED**  
**DEC 10 2004**  
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**WWKMN**

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:  
STEVEN J. ROCCI  
WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP  
ONE LIBERTY PLACE, 46TH FLOOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

## PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND  
THE WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
SEARCHING AUTHORITY, OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year) **07 DEC 2004**

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
MSFT-4419

**FOR FURTHER ACTION** See paragraphs 1 and 4 below

International application No.  
PCT/US04/24569

International filing date  
(day/month/year) 29 July 2004 (29.07.2004)

Applicant  
MICROSOFT CORPORATION

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith.  
  
**Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:**  
The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):  
  
**When?** The time limit for filing such amendments is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the international search report.  
  
**Where?** Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Facsimile No.: +41 22 740 14 35  
  
**For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.**
2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.
3. ☐ **With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:**  
  
☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.  
  
☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.
4. **Reminders**  
  
Shortly after the expiration of **18 months** from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.  
  
The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Searching Authority to the International Bureau. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an international preliminary examination report has been or is to be established. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.  
  
Within **19 months** from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase **until 30 months** from the priority date (in some Offices even later); otherwise, the applicant must, **within 20 months** from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices.  
  
In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of **30 months** (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.  
  
See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US  
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Jean M. Corrigan  
Telephone No. (703) 305-9000

Form PCT/ISA/220 (January 2004)

(See notes on accompanying sheet)

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>MSFT-4419 | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Form PCT/ISA/220<br>as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. |   |
| International application No.<br>PCT/US04/24569    | International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> )<br>29 July 2004 (29.07.2004)              | (Earliest) Priority Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> )<br>21 August 2003 (21.08.2003) |
| Applicant<br>MICROSOFT CORPORATION                 |   |   |

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 3 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the Report**

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.
2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box No. II)
3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (See Box No. III)
4. With regard to the **title**,
- ☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- ☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

**5. With regard to the abstract,**

- ☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- ☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

**6. With regard to the drawings,**

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 36
- ☒ as suggested by the applicant.
- ☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- ☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.
- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/24569

### Box IV TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of Item 5 of the first sheet)

By modeling real-world application objects with complex structures, behaviors and operations described by a schema which is enforced by the hardware/software interface system, various embodiments of the present invention provide rich sub-typing functionality (3602, 3604, 3606, 3622, 3624, 3626, 3642, 3644) by extending items using extensions which provide additional data structure to already existing items type structures. Extensions are strongly typed instances that cannot exist independently and must be attached to an item or a Nested element. Extensions are also intended to address multi-typing issues by enabling the overlap of type instances.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/24569

| <b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b><br>IPC(7) : G06F 17/30<br>US CL : 707/101, 100, 104, 103R<br>According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC   |  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b><br>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)<br>U.S. : 707/101, 100, 104, 103R<br><br>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched<br><br>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)<br>NPL, IEEE, ACM, WEST   |  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| <b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>   |  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| Category *  | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No.   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| Y, P  | US 6,763,350 B2 (AGRAWAL et al.,) 13 July 2004, see the entire document.   | 1-42  |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| Y, P  | U 6,697,818 B2 (LI et al., ) 24 February 2004, see the entire document.  | 1-42  |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.   |  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| <table border="0"> <tr> <td colspan="2">           * Special categories of cited documents:         </td> </tr> <tr> <td>           "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance         </td> <td>           "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention         </td> </tr> <tr> <td>           "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date         </td> <td>           "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone         </td> </tr> <tr> <td>           "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)         </td> <td>           "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art         </td> </tr> <tr> <td>           "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means         </td> <td>           "&amp;" document member of the same patent family         </td> </tr> <tr> <td>           "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed         </td> <td></td> </tr> </table> |  |   | * Special categories of cited documents: |  | "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention | "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone | "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art | "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | "&" document member of the same patent family | "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed |  |
| * Special categories of cited documents:  |  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date   | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone   |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)   | "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  | "&" document member of the same patent family  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed  |  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search<br>28 October 2004 (28.10.2004)   |  | Date of mailing of the international search report<br><b>07 DEC 2004</b>              |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/US<br>Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US<br>Commissioner for Patents<br>P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450<br>Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230   |  | Authorized officer<br>Kim Vu <i>James R. Matthews</i><br>Telephone No. (703) 305-9000 |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:  
STEVEN J. ROCCI  
WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP  
ONE LIBERTY PLACE, 46TH FLOOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

# PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Date of mailing<br>(day/month/year) <b>07 DEC 2004</b>  |   |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br><br>MSFT-4419  | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b><br>See paragraph 2 below                      |
| International application No.<br><br>PCT/US04/24569   | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>29 July 2004 (29.07.2004) |
| Priority date (day/month/year)<br>21 August 2003 (21.08.2003)   |   |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC<br><br>IPC(7): G06F 17/30 and US Cl.: 707/101, 100, 104, 103R |   |
| Applicant<br><br>MICROSOFT CORPORATION  |   |

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I      Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II     Priority
- ☐ Box No. III    Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV    Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V     Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI    Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII   Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII   Certain observations on the international application

## 2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US<br>Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US<br>Commissioner for Patents<br>P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450<br>Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230 | Authorized officer<br>Kim Vu <i>James R. Matthews</i><br>Telephone No. (703) 305-9000 |
|--|---|

Form PCT/ISA/237 (cover sheet) (January 2004)

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/US04/24569

**Box No. I Basis of this opinion**

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

☐ a sequence listing

☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

☐ in written format

☐ in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

☐ contained in international application as filed.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/US04/24569

Box No. II Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not yet been furnished:
- ☐ .copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).
- ☒ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).
- Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.
2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority has been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.
3. Additional observations, if necessary:
- In the event a copy of the non-US filed priority document is not furnished to this authority because the applicant fails to comply with PCT Rule 17.1 or the document is not available to this Authority from a digital library, the applicant is invited to provide this Authority with a copy of said document. The applicant is also invited to provide a translation of said document into English (if the document is not in English) within two months from the date of mailing of this written opinion. If this Authority is not provided with a copy of said non-US filed priority document and the applicant fails to comply with PCT Rule 17.1 and the priority document is not available to this Authority from a digital library and/or an English translation of said document, if it is not in English, is not provided to this Authority within the time period set forth above or by the time this Authority begins to draw up any written opinion (WO) of the International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) or the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (IPRP) of the IPEA, any said WO or IPRP of the IPEA may be established as if the priority had not been claimed.



**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.  
PCT/US04/24569

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43 bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

|                               |                    |     |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----|
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims <u>1-42</u> | YES |
|                               | Claims <u>NONE</u> | NO  |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Claims <u>NONE</u> | YES |
|                               | Claims <u>1-42</u> | NO  |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims <u>1-42</u> | YES |
|                               | Claims <u>NONE</u> | NO  |

**2. Citations and explanations:**

Claims 1-42 lack of an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Agrawal et al., US Patent no. 6,763,350 in view of Li et al., US Patent no. 6,697,818.

As to claims 1-42:

Claims 1-42 are directed for a system for modeling real world application objects by extending items using extension, which provides additional data structures to the existing items, type structures, which were neither described nor enabled in the priority application. Therefore, claims 1-42 are being examined in light of the international file date. Agrawal, however, discloses substantially the invention as claimed, including the use of extending an item and an extension to extend the item (col.1, lines 15-col.11, line 48). On the other hand, Li discloses an analogous system that constitutes a discrete storable unit of information that can be manipulated by said hardware/software interface system (col.7, line 30-col.15, line 22). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references where the query module provided therein (see Agrawal's fig.1, item 20) to incorporate the use of constituting a discrete storable unit of information that can be manipulated by said hardware/software interface system in order to provide a better performance query than is otherwise possible with conventional extenders due to a better understanding on the part of the universal extension module of a data model of underlying data types.

## NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220

These Notes are intended to give the basic instructions concerning the filing of amendments under Article 19. The Notes are based on the requirements of the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Regulations and the Administrative Instructions under that Treaty. In case of discrepancy between these Notes and those requirements, the latter are applicable. For more detailed information, see also the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, a publication of WIPO.

In these Notes, "Article," "Rule" and "Section" refer to the provisions of the PCT, the PCT Regulations and the PCT Administrative Instructions, respectively.

### INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 19

The applicant has, after having received the international search report, one opportunity to amend the claims of the international application. It should however be emphasized that, since all parts of the international application (claims, description and drawings) may be amended during the international preliminary examination procedure, there is usually no need to file amendments of the claims under Article 19 except where, e.g. the applicant wants the latter to be published for the purposes of provisional protection or has another reason for amending the claims before international publication. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that provisional protection is available in some States only.

#### **What parts of the international application may be amended ?**

Under Article 19, only the claims may be amended.

During the international phase, the claims may also be amended (or further amended) under Article 34 before the International Preliminary Examining Authority. The description and drawings may only be amended under Article 34 before the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

Upon entry into the national phase, all parts of the international application may be amended under Article 28 or, where applicable, Article 41.

**When ?** Within 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report or 16 months from the priority date, whichever time limit expires later. It should be noted, however, that the amendments will be considered as having been received on time if they are received by the International Bureau after the expiration of the applicable time limit but before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication (Rule 46.1).

#### **Where not to file the amendments ?**

The amendments may only be filed with the International Bureau and not with the receiving Office or the International Searching Authority (Rule 46.2).

Where a demand for international preliminary examination has been/is filed, see below.

**How ?** Either by cancelling one or more entire claims, by adding one or more new claims or by amending the text of one or more of the claims as filed.

A replacement sheet must be submitted for each sheet of the claims which, on account of an amendment or amendments, differs from the sheet originally filed.

All the claims appearing on a replacement sheet must be numbered in Arabic numerals. Where a claim is cancelled, no renumbering of the other claims is required. In all cases where claims are renumbered, they must be renumbered consecutively (Administrative Instructions, Section 205(b)).

**The amendments must be made in the language in which the international application is to be published.**

#### **What documents must/may accompany the amendments ?**

##### **Letter (Section 205(b)):**

The amendments must be submitted with a letter.

The letter will not be published with the international application and the amended claims. It should not be confused with the "Statement under Article 19(1)" (see below, under "Statement under Article 19(1)").

**The letter must be in English or French, at the choice of the applicant. However, if the language of the international application is English, the letter must be in English; if the language of the international application is French, the letter must be in French.**